

Letter from Jason S. Joy to Gilbert Grosvenor, December 9, 1938

P Twentieth Century-Fox Film Corporation STUDIOS BEVERLY HILLS, CALIFORNIA
December 9, 1938 Dr. Gilbert Grosvenor National Geographic Society Washington, D. C.
Dear Doctor Grosvenor:

I am sending you herewith Mr. Trotti's Revised Script of the ALEXANDER GRAHAM BELL picture.

You will note that he has made some pencil notations on the margins. These indicate the changes which have been made. The most important is the emphasis which has been placed upon the fact that Mr. Bell's ancestry and training make him the only man who is able to recognize the undulating current.

The Court Scene and all the other suggestions which you made, so far as both Mr. Trotti and I could remember, have been incorporated with the exception of two.

We tried out the early Scotland sequence and found that, in addition to requiring an entirely new cast, it made the story appear to be disconnected and the time lapse created a confusion in the minds of those who have read it here. For these two reasons we decided to ask your indulgence, but we have made other changes which bring out all that could have been seen or told in the Scotland sequence.

The Shaving sequence is still in, but is there only for the purpose of indicating a love scene between the two characters. When we get to actual shooting, the requirements of the make-up will indicate how the scene will be played.

After he had read the Revised Script Mr. Zanuck asked me to express his thanks again to you for the very constructive help which you have given, and for your patient and

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understanding consideration. Really your suggestions have greatly improved the script, rather than in any way hindered or limited it.

The actual date of production is still a little indefinite, but as soon as it has been decided whether it will start on January 3rd or the 16th I will let you know, hoping sincerely that we may induce at least some of you to come out and sit in with us during at least a part of the shooting.

Please give Mrs. Grosvenor and Melville my kindest regards.

Sincerely yours, Jason S. Joy Jason S. Joy d